

Fredericksburg Arts Commission Meeting

Thursday, November 6, 2008

City Hall Conference Room

Attendees: Kevin Bartram, Kerry Devine, Kathleen Walsh, Rochelle Grey, Roy Jarnecke, Pat Thalman, Peter Scelfo, George Solley, Kim Schill, Florence Ridderhof, and Debby Klein.

Introductions

Roy Jarnecke introduced Julie Perry to the Commission. Kim Schill explained that Julie is the manager of the Fredericksburg Visitor Center and that due to the Economic Development and Tourism Department's being short staffed since the Director had resigned, responsibilities within the department had to be shifted. Therefore, Julie will be taking over Kim's position on the Arts Commission. Julie informed the Commission of her extensive background with the arts.

Roy asked Julie if she would also be willing to serve as Secretary which was Kim's position, as well. Julie agreed and Rochelle Grey made a motion to appoint Julie as Secretary. Motion was seconded by Debby Klein and the motion unanimously passed.

Approval of Minutes

Roy Jarnecke called the meeting to order. The minutes of October 2, 2008 were reviewed, and Debby Klein made a motion to accept. Motion was seconded by Pat Thalman and the motion unanimously passed.

Public Comment

Chairman Jarnecke recognized two members of the public that were in attendance and allowed them to introduce themselves. Kathryn Willis discussed plans for establishing an Arts and Cultural Council for Planning District 16.

Financial Procedures

The City's Budget Manager Mark Whitley reported that the City is the fiscal agent for the Commission, which falls under the City's Grants Fund. Mark explained that there is currently \$10,000 available and strongly recommended the Commission devise a budget for Fiscal Year 2010. Mark also explained that any purchase the Commission makes needs to go through the City and its staff.

The Commission discussed Mark's report and concluded the Arts Commission needs to develop a budget as well as a process for handling Fine Arts Council grants.

Reports

Bylaws Review Committee Report- Debby Klein & Kevin Bartram

Kevin referenced the final Bylaws document he emailed to the Commission prior to the meeting. After a brief discussion, the Commission made some additional changes to the Bylaws. Kevin made a motion to accept the Bylaws with these amendments. As the motion was a result of a Committee Report, no second was needed. The motion passed unanimously.

Website Committee Report- Pat Thalman

Pat Thalman reported she met with the City's Director of Fiscal Affairs Clarence Robinson, Chairman Jarnecke, and Kim Schill to discuss the City's procedure for procurement of services such as a website provider. As a result of the meeting, Pat made a motion to withdraw her motion from the previous meeting to pay \$5,000 and recommended more research be conducted and a Commission budget be created prior to pursuing the website concept. After discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

The Commission continued to discuss the importance of a website and Rochelle Grey made a motion that the Website Committee continue to move forward with its research. Concern was raised about lack of funding and other issues. Rochelle amended the motion to state the Committee should continue to move forward with its research and report back to the Commission with a proposal. Motion passed.

George Solley suggested the Commission create a Strategic Plan.

Arts Fair Committee- Kevin Bartram

Kevin suggested that in addition to putting on an Arts Fair, the Commission should also consider "piggy backing" on the July 4th Heritage Festival that is held downtown. He advised he was meeting with the Festival coordinators the following week and report back at the next meeting.

Regarding an Arts Fair, Kevin advised the Committee met and is currently in a fact finding stage. He distributed some information on Arts Fairs and the Commission discussed possibly doing a Fall Festival during the UMW Homecoming weekend. There was some concern about the man hours putting on an event would entail and this discussion led to an overall discussion about the goals of the Commission. Peter Scelfo made a motion to suspend all activity with the exception of the website until a five year strategic plan was established. Motion was seconded by Kathleen Walsh. Chairman Jarnecke stated he

believed this motion was too “rigid” and, as chairman, appointed a Long-Term Planning Committee to explore a strategic plan and goals of the Commission. Peter will serve as Chairman and George Solley, Julie Perry, and Kathleen Walsh agreed to serve on the committee.

The Commission then voted on Peter’s motion. Ayes (2). Peter Scelfo and Kathleen Walsh. Nays (10). Roy Jarnecke, Kevin Bartram, Kerry Devine, Rochelle Grey, Roy Jarnecke, Pat Thalman, George Solley, Kim Schill, Florence Ridderhof, and Debby Klein. Motion defeated.

Facilities Committee- Roy Jarnecke

Roy advised he did not have a Facilities Committee report.

Old Business

Proposal for Cultural Inventory and Cultural Plan- Carolyn Van Der Jagt

Carolyn advised she will be conducted a web-based survey in order to take inventory of all art related businesses, facilities, services, etc are in our area. She distributed a sample survey to the Commission and advised she will use email addresses to build a database. The result of the survey will illustrate strengths, weaknesses, and assets in the City’s Cultural Inventory.

After the Commission discussed Carolyn’s proposal, it was noted someone from the actual Arts Commission should assist Carolyn. Kim Schill made a motion that a Cultural Survey Committee be formed and Carolyn be part of that committee. Kevin Bartram seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Florence Ridderhof and Pat Thalman agreed to serve on the Cultural Survey Committee with Carolyn.

New Business

Residual Funds from the Fredericksburg Fine Arts Commission-Debby Klein

Debby reported she had met with Budget Manager Mark Whitley and Fiscal Affairs Director Clarence Robinson concerning the residual funds. She is now working to close the checking account.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 4 at 7pm in the City Hall Conference Room.